

IN THE CLAIMS:

A listing of the pending claims follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

receiving at least one registration request to register a user requesting a service in a network entity in an internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem of a communication system;

providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity; and

controlling the registration based on the control information.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

determining that at least one user belongs to a same subscription.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

checking whether at least one of said at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations would be infringed by allowing the registration.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising:

denying the registration when the checking shows that at least one of said at least one limitation regarding the simultaneous registrations would be infringed by allowing the registration.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising:

allowing the registration request when the checking shows that none of the at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations would be infringed by allowing the registration.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

indicating with the control information a number of the simultaneous user registrations allowed for a subscription.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, further comprising:

indicating with the control information a maximum number of the simultaneous user registrations allowed for a subscription.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

indicating with the control information a limitation on a service type allowed for the simultaneous user registrations for a subscription.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing the control information in a user information storage entity.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein said storing comprises storing the control information in a home subscriber server.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the checking comprises checking in a user information storage entity.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claims 9, further comprising:

sending a request for user subscriber information from said network entity to the user information storage entity.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the providing comprises providing the control information from the user information storage entity to said network entity.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the checking comprises checking in the network entity.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving comprises receiving the registration request in at least one of a serving controller and an interrogating controller.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the receiving comprises receiving the registration request in the serving controller, and wherein the serving controller comprises a serving call session control function.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein said receiving comprises receiving the registration request in the interrogating controller, and wherein the interrogating controller comprises an interrogating call session control function.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

counting the simultaneous registrations of the contact addresses.

19. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:

a network entity configured to receive at least one request to register a user requesting a service in a network entity in an internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem;

a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity; and

a controlling unit configured to control the registration based on the control information.

20. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, further comprising:

a checking unit configured to check whether at least one of said at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the contact addresses would be infringed by allowing the registration.

21. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein the network entity comprises the checking unit.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein the network entity comprises at least one of a serving controller and an interrogating controller.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein the serving controller comprises a serving call session control function.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 23, wherein the interrogating controller comprises an interrogating call session control function.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, further comprising:

a storing unit configured to store the control information associated with at least one of said at least one limitation regarding the simultaneous registrations of contact addresses.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, further comprising:

a user information storage entity.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 26, wherein the user information storage entity comprises a home subscriber server.

28. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein a user information storage entity comprises the checking unit.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein a user information storage entity comprises the storing unit.

30. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein a serving controller comprises the storing unit.

31. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein the controlling unit is configured to allow or deny the registration based on the control information.

32. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
receiving means for receiving at least one registration request for registration of a user requesting a service in an internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem;
receiving control means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity; and
controlling means for controlling the registration based on the control information.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, further comprising:

checking means for checking whether at least one of said at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the contact addresses would be infringed by allowing the registration.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the apparatus comprises at least one of serving controller means, interrogating controller means, or internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem means.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the serving controller means is for providing a serving call session control function.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the interrogating controller means is for providing an interrogating call session control function.

37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 32, further comprising:

counting means for counting the simultaneous registrations.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

indicating with the control information at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the contact addresses in relation to one network.

39. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

a receiver configured to receive at least one registration request to register a user requesting a service in a network entity in an internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem, and further configured to receive control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity; and

a controller configured to control the registration based on the control information.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 39, wherein the controller is further configured to check whether at least one of said at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the contact addresses would be infringed by allowing the registration.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 39, wherein the apparatus comprises at least one of a serving controller and an interrogating controller.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the serving controller is a serving call session control function.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the interrogating controller is an interrogating call session control function.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 39, wherein the controller is further configured to count the simultaneous registrations of the contact addresses.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein contact information is assigned to the individual contact addresses to represent a network address of the corresponding user equipment used to register with the network entity.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein a plurality of contact addresses are registered to access at least one service under a single subscription registered with the network entity.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein a subscriber is registered with the network entity as being subscribed to a plurality of subscriptions for services.

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein at least one private user identity is registered with the network entity as representing a subscriber of a plurality of subscriptions for services.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein a public user identity is used to represent a plurality of private user identities.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein a private user identity is used to represent a plurality of public user identities.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein a single public user identity is used to represent a plurality of contact addresses operating a corresponding plurality of user equipments which are simultaneously registered with the network entity under a single subscription registered with the network entity as the single public user identity.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the registration is controlled based on contact information assigned to the individual contact addresses.

53. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:
receiving at least one registration request to register a user requesting a service in a network entity in an internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem;
receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity; and
controlling the registration based on the control information.

54. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 53, further comprising:

checking whether at least one of said at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the contact addresses would be infringed by allowing the registration.

55. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 53, further comprising:

counting the simultaneous registrations of the contact addresses.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein contact information is assigned to the individual contact addresses to represent a network address of the corresponding user equipment used to register with the network entity.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein a plurality of contact addresses are registered to access at least one service under a single subscription registered with the network entity.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein a subscriber is registered with the network entity as being subscribed to a plurality of subscriptions for services.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein at least one private user identity is registered with the network entity as representing a subscriber of a plurality of subscriptions for services.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein a public user identity is used to represent a plurality of private user identities.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein a private user identity is used to represent a plurality of public user identities.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein a single public user identity is used to represent a plurality of contact addresses operating a corresponding plurality of user equipments which are simultaneously registered with the network entity under a single subscription registered with the network entity as the single public user identity.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the registration is controlled based on contact information assigned to the individual contact addresses.